Thomas Harris – Ice House Patent

In 1864, Thomas Harris patented George's Ice House: 'An improved method of Constructing Rooms or Places for Curing and Preserving Meat or other Perishable Articles'. The income from licensing the patent to other bacon curers, enabled the brothers to develop and modernise their premises.

- *C&T Harris (Calne): An Illustrated History* by Dee La Vardera

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Chris Harris (left on image below), descendant of the Calne Harris family, presented the patent to Tim Havenith, who received the donation at Calne Heritage Centre on 10 July 2024, on behalf of the Trustees of the Calne Heritage Centre Trust.
The frame and stand were funded by David Harris, who owned the patent. David was a much respected Trustee of the Heritage Centre up until he sadly passed away in 2022.
The bespoke stand and frame have been beautifully made by Nick Holgate (right of image).
We thank David Harris and his family for this magnificent donation and invite all to come and view the patent.

Transcription kindly provided by Audrey Earl.

Victoria by the Grace of God
The Harristocracy
HARRIS
BACON
WILTSHIRE
SAUSAGES

C&T Harris Ice House Patent Letter Transcription

Victoria by the Grace of God
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting **Whereas**
Thomas Harris of Calne in the County of Wilts----------
hath by his Petition humbly represented unto Us that he is in possession of an Invention for "An improved method of constructing rooms or places for curing and preserving meat or other
perishable articles"----------– which the Petitioner believes will be of great public utility that the said Invention has been communicated to him
from abroad by George Harris of Schenectady in the United States of America –-- and that the same is not in use by any other person or persons to the best of his knowledge and belief The Petitioner
therefore most humbly prayed that We would be graciously pleased to grant unto him his executors administrators and assigns Our Royal Letters Patent for the sole use benefit and advantage of the said Invention
within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man for the term of Fourteen years pursuant to the Statute in that case made and provided And We being willing to give
encouragement to all Arts and Inventions which may be for the public good are graciously pleased to condescend to the Petitioner's request **know he** therefore that We of Our especial grace certain knowledge
and mere motion **have** given and granted and by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors **DO** give and grant unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns
Our special licence full power sole privilege and authority that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns and every of them by himself and themselves or by
his and their Deputy or Deputies Servants or Agents or such others as he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall at any time agree with and no others
from time to time and at all times hereafter during the term of years herein expressed shall and lawfully may make use exercise and vend the said Invention within Our United Kingdom
of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man in such manner as to him the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns or any
of them shall in his or their discretion seem meet And that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns shall and lawfully may have and enjoy
the whole profit benefit commodity and advantage from time to time coming growing accruing and arising by reason of the said Invention for and during the term of years herein
mentioned **To have hold** exercise and enjoy the said licences powers privileges and advantages hereinbefore granted or mentioned to be granted unto the said Thomas Harris his
executors administrators and assigns for and during and unto the full end and term of **Fourteen years** from the day of the date of these Presents next and immediately ensuing according to
the Statute in such case made and provided And to the end that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns and every of them may have and enjoy the
full benefit and the sole use and exercise of the said Invention according to Our gracious intention hereinbefore declared We do by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors require and

strictly Command all and every person and persons bodies politic and corporate and all other Our Subjects whatsoever of what estate quality degree name or condition soever they be within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man that neither they nor any of them at any time during the continuance of the said term of Fourteen years hereby granted either directly or indirectly do make use or put in practice the said Invention or any part of the same so attained unto by the said Thomas Harris as aforesaid nor in anywise counterfeit imitate or resemble the same nor shall make or cause to be made any addition thereunto or subtraction from the same whereby to pretend himself or themselves the Inventor or Inventors Devisor or Devisors thereof without the consent licence or agreement of the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns in writing under his or their hands and seals first had and obtained in that behalf upon such pains and penalties as can or may be justly inflicted on such Offenders for their contempt of this Our Royal Command And further to be answerable to the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns according to Law for his and their damages thereby occasioned **And moreover** We do by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors Will and Command all and singular the Justices of the Peace Mayors Sheriffs Bailiffs Constables Headboroughs and all other Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us Our heirs and successors for the time being that they or any of them do not nor shall at any time during the said term hereby granted in anywise molest trouble or hinder the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns or any of them or his or their Deputies Servants or Agents in or about the due and lawful use or exercise of the aforesaid Invention or anything related thereto **Provided always And these Our Letters Patent are and shall be upon this condition** that if at any time during the said term hereby granted it shall be made appear to Us Our heirs or successors or any six or more of Our or their Privy Council that this Our Grant is contrary to Law or prejudicial or inconvenient to Our Subjects in general or that the said Invention is not a new Invention as to the public use and exercise thereof within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man or that the same was not first introduced therein by the said Thomas Harris as aforesaid these Our Letters Patent shall forthwith cease determine and be utterly void to all intents and purposes anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding **Provided also** that these Our Letters Patent or anything herein contained shall not extend or be construed to extend to give privilege unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns or any of them to use or imitate any Invention or Work whatsoever which hath heretofore been found out or invented by any other of Our Subjects whatsoever and publicly used or exercised within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands or Isle of Man unto Whom Our Like

Letters Patent or Privileges have been already granted for the sole use exercise and benefit thereof It being Our Will and Pleasure that the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns and all and every other person and persons to whom like Letters Patent or Privileges have been already granted as aforesaid shall distinctly use and practise their several Inventions by them invented and found out according to the true intent and meaning of the same respective Letters Patent and of these Presents **Provided likewise nevertheless And these Our Letters Patent are upon this express Condition** that if the said Thomas Harris his executors or administrators shall not particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention and in what manner the same is to be performed by an Instrument in writing under his or their or one of their hands and seals and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within **Six calendar months** next and immediately after the date of these Our Letters Patent **And also** if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not pay the Stamp Duty of **Fifty Pounds** and produce these Our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the Office of Our Commissioners of Patents for Inventions before the expiration of **Three years** from the date of these Our Letters Patent pursuant to the provisions of the Act of the sixteenth year of Our Reign Chapter 5 **And also** if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not pay the Stamp Duty of **One hundred Pounds** and produce these Our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the said Office of Our said Commissioners before the expiration of **Seven years** from the date of these Our Letters Patent pursuant also to the said Act **And also** if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not supply or cause to be supplied for Our service for the use of which the same shall be required to supply by the Officers or Commissioners administering the Department of Our Service for the use of which the same shall be required in such manner at such times and at and upon such reasonable prices and terms as shall be settled for that purpose by the said Officers or Commissioners requiring the same That then and in any of the said cases these Our Letters Patent and all liberties and advantages whatsoever hereby granted shall utterly cease determine and become void anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the granting of Licences in such manner and for such considerations as they may by Law be granted **And lastly** We do by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors grant unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns that these Our Letters Patent or the filing thereof shall be in and by all things good firm valid sufficient and effectual in the Law according to the true intent and meaning thereof and shall be taken construed and adjudged in the most favorable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns as well in all Our Courts of Record as elsewhere and by all and singular the Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us Our heirs and successors in Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and amongst all and every the Subjects of Us

Our Heirs and successors whatsoever and wheresoever. Notwithstanding the not full and certain describing the nature or quality of the said Invention
or of the materials thereunto conducing and belonging **In witness** whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent this
first day of December - One thousand eight hundred and sixty four in the twenty eighth year of Our Reign and to be sealed as of the said
first day of December - One thousand eight hundred and sixty four

By Warrant

Patents £100

1864

№ 2995.

Victoria by the Grace of God

of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen Defender of the Faith To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting Whereas Thomas Harris of Calne in the County of Wilts hath by his Petition humbly represented unto Us that he is in possession of an Invention for "An improved method of constructing rooms or places for curing and preserving Meat or other perishable Articles" which the Petitioner believes will be of great public utility that the said Invention has been communicated to him from abroad by George Harris of Schenectady in the United States of America and that the same is not in use by any other person or persons to the best of his knowledge and belief The Petitioner therefore most humbly prayed that We would be graciously pleased to grant unto him his executors administrators and assigns Our Royal Letters Patent for the sole use benefit and advantage of the said Invention within Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man for the term of Fourteen years pursuant to the Statute in that case made and provided. And We being willing to give encouragement to all Arts and Inventions which may be for the public good are graciously pleased to condescend to the Petitioner's request Know we therefore that We of Our especial grace certain knowledge and more motion Have given and granted and by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors Do give and grant unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns and every of them by himself and themselves or by Our especial licence full power sole privilege and authority that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall at any time agree with and no others his and their Deputy or Deputies Servants or Agents or such others as he the said Thomas Harris make use exercise and vend the said Invention within Our United Kingdom from time to time and at all times hereafter during the term of years herein expressed shall and lawfully may of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man in such manner as to him the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns or any of them shall in his or their discretion seem meet And that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns shall and lawfully may have and enjoy the whole profit benefit commodity and advantage from time to time coming growing accruing and arising by reason of the said Invention for and during the term of years herein mentioned To have hold exercise and enjoy the said licences powers privileges and advantages hereinbefore granted or mentioned to be granted unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns for and during and unto the full end and term of Fourteen years from the day of the date of these Presents next and immediately ensuing according to the Statute in such case made and provided And to the end that he the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns and every of them may have and enjoy the full benefit and the sole use and exercise of the 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Letters Patent

Pleasure that the said Thomas Harris or Privileges have been already granted for the sole use exercise and benefit thereof It being Our Will and his executors administrators and assigns and all and every other person and persons to whom like Letters Patent or Privileges have been already granted as aforesaid shall distinctly use and practise their several Inventions by them invented and found out according to the true intent and meaning of the same respective Letters Patent and of these Presents **Provided likewise nevertheless And** these Our Letters Patent are upon this express Condition that if the said Thomas Harris his executors or administrators shall not particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention and in what manner the same is to be performed by an Instrument in writing under his or their or one of their hands and seals and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within Six calendar months next and immediately after the date of these Our Letters Patent And also if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not pay the Stamp Duty of Fifty Pounds and produce these Our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the Office of Our Commissioners of Patents for Inventions before the expiration of Three years from the date of these Our Letters Patent pursuant to the provisions of the Act of the sixteenth year of Our Reign Chapter 5 And also if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not pay the Stamp Duty of One hundred Pounds and produce these Our Letters Patent stamped with a proper stamp to that amount at the said Office of Our said Commissioners before the expiration of Seven years from the date of these Our Letters Patent pursuant also to the said Act And also if the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators or assigns shall not supply or cause to be supplied for Our Service all such Articles of the said Invention as he or they shall be required to supply by the Officers or Commissioners administering the Department of Our Service for the use of which the same shall be required in such manner at such times and at and upon such reasonable prices and terms as shall be settled for that purpose by the said Officers or Commissioners requiring the same That then and in any of the said cases these Our Letters Patent and all liberties and advantages whatsoever hereby granted shall utterly cease determine and become void anything hereinbefore contained to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the granting of Licences in such manner and for such considerations as they may by Law be granted **And lastly** We do by these Presents for Us Our heirs and successors grant unto the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns that these Our Letters Patent or the filing thereof shall be in and by all things good firm valid sufficient and effectual in the Law according to the true intent and meaning thereof and shall be taken construed and adjudged in the most favorable and beneficial sense for the best advantage of the said Thomas Harris his executors administrators and assigns as well in all Our Courts of Record as elsewhere and by all and singular the Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us Our heirs and successors in Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and amongst all and every the Subjects of Us Our heirs and successors whatsoever and wheresoever Notwithstanding the not full and certain describing the nature or quality of the said Invention or of the materials thereunto conducing and belonging **In witness** whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent this first day of December — One thousand eight hundred and sixty four in the twenty eighth year of Our Reign and to be sealed as of the said first day of December — One thousand eight hundred and sixty four.

By Warrant